



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J.
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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RPD UNVEILS NEW COMMUNICATION TOOLS

*WEB-BASED FORM AND NEW BROCHURE ENCOURAGES CITIZENS TO
REPORT ACCODATES AND COMPLAINGS*

Rockford IL – March 7, 2011- Deputy Chief of Internal Affairs, Dave Hopkins, tonight shared with Rockford City Council members, a new, web tool which will allow Rockford citizens to report “accolades and complaints” via an electronic form. The improved reporting system is part of the upgrade to the city’s website (www.rockfordil.gov) and is designed to allow users greater flexibility, confidentiality, and comfort, in reporting concerns or compliments to the Rockford Police Department Office of Professional Standards.

“The Rockford Police Department is dedicated to providing the best possible police service to all citizens and we are continually looking for ways to build stronger relationships with our community.” Hopkins said to council members. “We realize that it can be intimidating for people to come into a police station to fill out a complaint, we wanted to make that process easier. At the same time, we wanted to offer our citizens the opportunity to tell us about the positive situations and interactions they have had with our police officers,” he explained.

In addition to the electronic form on the city’s website, the Rockford Police Department has updated the community relations form. The brochure provides information about how a citizen may compliment or complain about a particular interaction. There are also contact numbers and an email address listed in the brochure.

The new brochure and the updated reporting form emphasize the Department's focus on breaking down barriers and welcoming information regarding interactions between citizens and the Rockford Police Department. The new brochures, as well as the electronic form are in both English and Spanish. A PDF version of the brochure is also available on the website.

The community relations brochure information may be obtained by accessing the City of Rockford website, (www.rockfordil.gov) clicking on the Public Safety link and then selecting the Rockford Police Department. The community relations brochure is located on the Rockford Police Department's front web page.

The funding for these brochures was a Department of Justice Assistance Grant.

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